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East Germany

COUNTRY REPORTTOPIC Military Information from Gera

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

7 January 1954

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DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 7 December 1953, the Reuss Kaserne in Gera was occupied to capacity. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. Troops observed in the installation engaged in maintenance work, cleaning of weapons, athletic training and theoretical instruction. About 60 recruits daily observed individual training.

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2. On 7 December, the Panzer Kaserne in Tinz was occupied by about 200 troops. On 2 December, truck [redacted] was seen leaving the installation toward Zeitz. 2
3. On 24 November, the Reuss Kaserne was occupied as previously. On 12 November, about 50 troops received basic training in the barracks yard and another 25 troops practiced aiming. On 17 November, 6 trucks, each occupied by about 30 troops carrying full field pack, and including [redacted] left the installation. On 19 November, 2 trucks and 6 prime movers each towing a 100-mm AT gun, left the installation toward Langenberg. On 21 November, about 20 troops were cleaning 3 x 100-mm AT guns.

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4. On 24 November, the Panzer Kaserne in Tinz was occupied by about 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank and motor transport insignia. On 13 November, 4 T-34/85 tanks left the installation toward Lansenberg.

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About 40 troops left the installation. Some time later, they were followed by truck which was loaded with baggage and proceeded toward Reuss Kaserne. On 23 November, 1 boxcar carrying about 20 troops and 1 flatcar with sideracks carrying 1 T-34/85 tank left the railroad station toward Zeitz.

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5. On 26 November, the Reuss Kaserne was occupied as previously. At 9:15 a.m., 8 prime movers were entrained at the Gera railroad station.

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Between 9:30 a.m. and 10 a.m., 6 to 8 trucks, each occupied by about 25 to 30 soldiers, daily left the installation for the firing range. At 10 a.m. on 26 November, these trucks were followed by truck carrying boards. Trucks

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were seen returning from the firing range. 10 watchtowers, 8 to 10 meters high, and 2 small and 1 large wooden shed at the firing range. The area was surrounded by a high board fence. Construction work was still under way. At about 3 p.m., truck occupied by 8 officers with baggage, went to the railroad station.

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6. On 5 December, the Reuss Kaserne was occupied by about 3,800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and AT gun insignia. Three 152-mm howitzers were in the barracks yard and about 100 troops engaged in aiming and loading practice. Six 100-mm AT guns and 6 x 57-mm AT guns were seen in front of the vehicle sheds and about 250 troops received training in aiming and loading. About 500 troops engaged in formation drill.

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7. On 5 December, the Panzer Kaserne in Tinz was occupied by about 800 to 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 600 troops had fallen in for a roll call in the morning and about 90 to 100 troops drilled in the afternoon.

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1. Comment. The Reuss Kaserne is occupied as previously by the 308th Arty Brig (US).
2. Comment. The Panzer Kaserne in Tinz is believed to quarter a tank training unit of the Eighth Gds Army as previously.

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